TATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Yoshihiro HAMA et al.

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Group Art Unit: 2872

Confirmation No. 4330

Examiner: Euncha P. CHERRY

Appln. No.

: August 27, 2003

10/648,219

For

Filed

: MULTI-BEAM SCANNING DEVICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 18, 2004, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Yoshihiro HAMA et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

41,568

June 11, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191